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DRAFT

2 September 1960

Col. Robert Herndon
Commander

~~Mr. Robert H. Kingsley~~

Aeronautical Chart and Information Center

Second and Arsenal Streets

St. Louis 18, Missouri

Dear Col. Herndon:
~~Dear Bob,~~

25X1A9a

Reference is made to ¹²⁰your letter of 23 August, 1960, inquiring about the action taken on a proposal to send a geodesist to the USSR on a one-year scholarship. ^{our}My proposal to the USIB Committee on Exchanges was submitted as one of three alternatives to a previously proposed exchange of scholarships in oceanography between the US and the USSR. This latter proposal was evaluated by an ad hoc group of the Committee as not being of net value to the US; at the same time a suggestion was made that consideration be given to ^{an alternative reciprocal scholarship for the US} ~~a US-desired scholarship~~ in other fields which might make the original oceanographer scholarship exchange of net benefit to the US. ^{we}I submitted a brief to the USIB Committee on 22 July 1960 suggesting that a scholarship in geodesy for a US geodesist at the Novosibirsk Institute of Geodesy, Photogrammetry and Cartography be requested from the Soviets in exchange for a one-year scholarship

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at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography for a Soviet oceanographer, Dr. Dmitre Smetanin. This brief, with two other alternatives, was referred on 2 August 1960 by the USIB Committee to the Scientific Intelligence Committee for evaluation. The SIC considered the matter on 17 August 1960 and reported that on balance the proposed alternatives would result in a net intelligence loss to the U.S. It is difficult for ~~me~~^{US} to understand how the argumentation developed which led to this conclusion. You probably could get more details from the USAF member on the SIC, Mr. Jonathan H. Gilmore.

~~We~~^{we} appreciate the effort made by you in making a preliminary determination of the availability of suitable candidates. *While it has been suggested informally by the Secretary, USIB Committee on Exchanges that I might mention that although* we could further pursue the matter independently of the above case, by seeking an exchange of geodesists between the two countries, it is ~~my~~^{our} belief that this would prove fruitless since in April 1960 the Soviets submitted an aide memoire *to the Department of State* stating that Soviet organizations were not interested in an exchange in the near future in the field of cartography and geodesy. It was ~~our~~^{our} hope that perhaps an ~~exchange~~^{exchange} wanted very much by the Soviets might have enticed an exchange in which we had a strong interest. ~~We~~

~~We~~ regret that this didn't work out.

Please ~~extend my~~^{accept our} appreciation to ~~Colonel Herndon and his~~^{you and your} staff for the positive consideration given this matter.

Sincerely yours,

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